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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 3, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 29 totaled an estimated 16.5 billion ton-miles, 4.3 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1981 week included the Memorial Day holiday and the ninth week of the coal miners' strike.

Cumulative volume for the first 22 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 354.9 billon ton-miles, 8.2 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended May 29 totaled 381,256 cars, 5.4 percent above the 1981 holiday week but 1.6 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 26.5 percent in the East due to the 1981 coal strike, up 0.8 percent in the South but were down 3.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 14 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, grain loadings were up 2,254 cars, or 11.4 percent. Twelve of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended May 22, totaled 35,762 cars, up an estimated 3.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 65,511 trailers and/or containers, 5.7 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first twenty one weeks of the year was 739,283 cars, 7.9 percent higher than last year, and 1,323,143 trailers and/or containers, up 6.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 5/29/82:

	Loadings in Week ended May 29,1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	22,106	I	2,254	11.4	D	3,117	12.4
Other farm products	4,648	I	139	3.1	I	75	1.6
Metallic ores	22,529	D	16,327	42.0	D	1,114	4.7
Coal	114,796	I	53,052	85.9	D	5,231	4.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,807	D	2,736	21.8	D	530	5.1
Nonmetallic minerals	9,881	D	3,089	23.8	I	894	9.9
Grain mill products	11,494	D	1,069	8.5	D	166	1.4
Food and kindred products	14,047	D	9	0.1	I	100	0.7
Primary forest products	14,826	D	2,066	12.2	D	455	3.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,891	D	813	10.6	I	481	7.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,048	D	2,594	13.2	I	391	2.3
Chemicals and allied products	22,919	D	947	4.0	I	796	3.6
Petroleum products	4,744	I	107	2.3	I	227	5.0
Stone, clay and glass products	10,051	D	3,175	24.0	D	121	1.2
Coke	4,488	D	2,583	36.5	D	44	1.0
Metals and products	10,153	D	5,859	36.6	I	408	4.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,078	D	143	0.8	D	1,015	5.6
Waste and scrap materials	8,711	D	2,967	25.4	I	89	1.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,047	I	731	8.8	I	1,020	12.7
All other carloads	45,692	I	7,552	19.8	I	1,145	2.6
LCL traffic	300	I	128	74.4	I	29	10.7
Total Cars Loaded	381,256	I	19,586	5.4	D	6,138	1.6
Corresponding week of 1981	361,670						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (22 weeks)	8,247,808	9,069,117	D 9.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
21 Weeks cumulative	338.5	370.9	D 8.7
Week ended May 29	16.5	15.8	I 4.3
22 Weeks cumulative	354.9	386.7	D 8.2

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